

OCCURRENCE OF HELMINTH PARASITES IN AVIAN HOSTS FROM SOUTH BASS ISLAND, OHIO¹

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ABSTRACT

Necropsy of specimens of 10 species of birds from South Bass Island, Ottawa County, Ohio, yielded 15 species of helminth parasites. New host and geographic records resulting from this study include *Brachylaemus euphoniae* from the Cedar Waxwing, *Bombycilla cedrorum*; *Apophallus brevis* and *Tetrameres crami* from the Sora Rail, *Porzana carolina*; and *Paruterina reynoldsi* from the Slate-colored Junco, *Junco h. hyemalis*. *Mosesia chordeilesia*, *Parabascus imanensis*, *Dilepis undula*, *Dispharynx nasuta*, and *Syngamus trachea* are recorded for the first time from the Red-headed Woodpecker, *Melanerpes e. erythrocephalus*. *Brachylaemus euphoniae* and *Parabascus imanensis* are reported for the first time from any North American host.

During 1969 and 1970, 12 accidentally killed or fatally injured birds found by residents or tourists on South Bass Island, Ottawa County, Ohio, were examined for helminth parasites. In addition, 5 Red-headed Woodpeckers, *Melanerpes e. erythrocephalus*, collected from the Ohio Biological Survey trap on the island were similarly examined. Complete necropsies of the 17 birds were conducted at the Stone Laboratory Research Facility on South Bass Island. One Catbird, *Dumetella carolinensis*, 1 Cedar Waxwing, *Bombycilla cedrorum*, 1 Great Blue Heron, *Ardea h. herodias*, 1 Kingbird, *Tyrannus tyrannus*, 3 Red-headed Woodpeckers, 2 Ring-necked Pheasants, *Phasianus colchicus*, 1 Slate-colored Junco, *Junco h. hyemalis*, and 1 Sora Rail, *Porzana carolina*, were found to be infected with helminth parasites. One Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica erythrogaster*, 2 Kingbirds, 2 Red-headed Woodpeckers, and 1 Redstart, *Setophaga ruticilla*, were free of helminth parasites.

Eight species of trematode, two species of cestode, four species of nematode and one species of acanthocephalan parasites were collected. Incidence, intensity, and site of infection of each parasite are listed below. Reference specimens have been filed in the USNM Helminthological Collection. The accession number of each respective specimen is listed.

TREMATODA

1. *Posthodiplostomum minimum* (MacCallum, 1921); 40 specimens were collected from the intestine of one adult Great Blue Heron. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72632
2. *Brachylaemus euphoniae* Yamaguti, 1941; 12 specimens were collected from the intestine of one adult Cedar Waxwing. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72688
3. *Notocotylus porzanae* Harwood, 1939; 3 specimens were collected from the intestine of one juvenile Sora Rail. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72631
4. *Brachylecithum seiuricum* Denton and Byrd, 1951; 86 specimens were collected from the gall bladder of one adult Kingbird. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72629
5. *Zonorchis alveyi* (Martin and Gee, 1949); 6 specimens were collected from the gall bladder of one adult Slate-colored Junco. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72695
6. *Mosesia chordeilesia* McMullen, 1936; 3 specimens were collected from the intestine of one adult Red-headed Woodpecker. USNM Helm. Coll. No. unavailable
7. *Parabascus imanensis* (Oshmarin and Dosenko, 1951); 7 specimens were collected from the cloaca of one Red-headed Woodpecker. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72630
8. *Apophallus brevis* Ransom, 1920; 73 specimens were collected from the intestine of one juvenile Sora Rail. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72687

CESTODA

1. *Dilepis undula* (Schrank, 1788); one specimen was collected from the intestine of one adult Red-headed Woodpecker. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72711
2. *Paruterina reynoldsi* Daly, 1958; 4 specimens were collected from the intestine of one adult Slate-colored Junco. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72685

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NEMATODA

1. *Syngamus trachea* (Montagu, 1811); 3 pairs of specimens were collected from one adult Red-headed Woodpecker and 2 pairs of specimens were collected from one juvenile Ring-necked Pheasant. The trachea was the site of infection in both birds. The specimens from the Pheasant were filed in the USNM Helm. Collection. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72697

2. *Heterakis gallinae* (Gmelin, 1790); 28 specimens were collected from the gastric caecae of one adult Ring-necked Pheasant. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72699

3. *Tetrameres crami* Swales, 1933; 12 specimens were collected from the proventriculus of one juvenile Sora Rail. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72686

4. *Dispharynx nasuta* (Rudolphi, 1819); 2 specimens were collected from the proventriculus of one Red-headed Woodpecker. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72712

ACANTHOCEPHALA

1. *Plagiorhynchus formosus* Van Cleave, 1918; one specimen was collected from the intestine of one adult Catbird. USNM Helm. Coll. No. 72702

This report records *Brachylaemus euphoniae* for the first time from any North American host species. *Brachylecithum seiuricum* from the Kingbird, *Apophallus brevis* and *Tetrameres crami* from the Sora Rail, and *Paruterina reynoldsi* from the Slate-colored Junco are reported for the first time from each respective host species and from any host species in Ohio. *Mosesia chordeilesia*, *Parabascus imanensis*, *Dilepis undula*, *Syngamus trachea* and *Dispharynx nasuta* are recorded for the first time from Red-headed Woodpeckers. Ellis (1963) reported *Ornithodendrium* sp. (= *Parabascus*) from a single Kingbird in Iowa. *Parabascus imanensis*, *sensu strictu*, is reported from the Red-headed Woodpecker for the first time and for the first time from any North American host species.

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TABLE 1

*Published and unpublished records of helminth parasites from the
Red-headed Woodpecker*

Parasite	Record	Locality
Trematoda		
<i>Zonorchis petiolatum</i>	Denton and Byrd (1951)	Mississippi
<i>Plagiorchis</i> sp.	Blankenspoor (1970)	Iowa
<i>Mosesia chordeilesia</i>	present study	Ohio
<i>Parabascus imanensis</i>	present study	Ohio
Cestoda		
<i>Raillietina comitata</i>	Ransom (1909)	Iowa Maryland Nebraska
<i>Raillietina rhynchota</i>	Ransom (1909)	Iowa Maryland Nebraska
<i>Dilepis undula</i>	present study	Ohio
Nematoda		
<i>Syngamus trachea</i>	present study	Ohio
<i>Oxyspirura pusilla</i>	Pence (1972)	Louisiana
<i>Dispharynx nasuta</i>	present study	Ohio
<i>Diplotrriaena</i> sp.	Walton (1927)	Brazil

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